

## Andrew Jackson to William Cocke, June 24, 1798, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

### TO WILLIAM COCKE.1

1 Copy.

Nashville June 24, 1798

*Sir* , Your letter in answer to mine of this date is now before me to which I beg leave to reply; understanding from my friends Genl. Roberson and Coll. Hayes, that you had a consultation with them after my last to you relative to fixing on a mode of making me reparation for the injury I have sustain'd from you in the exposition of my private correspondence and your having reported publicly that I had acted a double part in writing you friendly letters meaning to deceive you.

I must inform you those Gentlemen have been mistaken if they stated to you that I had consented (at their request) to leave all matters of differences between us to be my three Brothers<sup>2</sup> decided; my feelings no gentlemen however nice their Judgement, can determine.

<sup>2</sup> Jackson seems to mean brother Masons. Sept. 5, 1801, he, with George W. Campbell, Jenkins Whitesides, John Rhea, William Dickson, John Gass, Daniel Kennedy, and John Newman, acting under a dispensation from the Grand Lodge of North Carolina, met and organized a masonic lodge in Greenville, Tenn. (From records furnished by A. B. Andrews, jr., Raleigh, N. C.)

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Here then Sir is your mistake, I observed to those two Gentlemen that I had been injured by charges publickly made against me by you, upon information which you have since said you grounded your declarations upon (which information has on investigation appear'd to be false; having thus stated to those Gentlemen, I observed to them that I was willing if preferred by you to leave the mode of reparation for the injury you had done to me to any three or more Brothers to determine.

I have now to say that you have held me up to publick odium upon falacious information, and that this odium must be wiped away by some act of as publick notoriety. if its your choice that this reparation should be referred to the three Brothers or four including Brother Foster it will be acceded to by me, on your agreeing to have laid before them the aforesaid statement of the injury I have received.

I am Sr. Your Huml. Servt.